

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCI-06 AEC-11 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 PM-09

INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01

USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-10

SS-15 EA-11 RSR-01 EB-11 /166 W
----- 123708

R 041749 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0274

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

UNCLAS LONDON 03980

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, UK, FR

SUBJECT: ANGLO- FRENCH NUCLEAR COOPERATION

1. SPEAKING TO ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE APRIL 3, UK DEFENSE MINISTER LORD CARRINGTON AGAIN ADDRESSED QUESTION OF AN ANGLO- FRENCH NUCLEAR FORCE. ACCORDING TO "TIMES" OF APRIL 4, HE SAID HMG "ABSOLUTELY SATISFIED" THAT UK'S NUCLEAR DETERRENT REMAINED CREDIBLE AND EFFECTIVE AT PRESENT TIME AND THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF AN EARLY REPLACEMENT.
2. "TIMES" REPORT SAYS CARRINGTON HINTED AT FUTURE PLANS BY ADDING THAT THERE WERE WAYS OF PRESERVING CREDIBILITY "BY MAKING YOUR WEAPONS MORE EFFICIENT." HE REFERRED TO HEATH'S IDEA OF AN ANGLO- FRENCH NUCLEAR FORCE HELD IN TRUST FOR EUROPE, AND TO SPECULATION IN RECENT MONTHS THAT "WE ARE ENGAGED IN MAKING SUCH ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE FRENCH. BUT THIS IS NOT SO." CARRINGTON REPORTEDLY SAID THAT FRENCH ATTITUDE TO NATO, RESTRICTIONS ON UK DISCLOSING NUCLEAR INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE US, AND THE NEWNESS OF THE UK AND FRENCH NUCLEAR FLEETS MEANT THAT A JOINT FORCE WAS NOT AN IMMEDIATE ISSUE.

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3. "TIMES" SAYS CARRINGTON DISMISSED SUGGESTIONS THAT EC WOULD BE SUITABLE INSTRUMENT FOR BUILDING UP DEFENSE COOPERATION IN EUROPE AT PRESENT TIME, ALTHOUGH IT WAS SURE TO BECOSSELS COULD DEFEAT UNDERLYING POLITICAL BASIS FOR AGREEMENT. THE U. S. PROPOSAL IS SILENT ON ITS GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE; ISSUE IS NOT LEGAL STATUS OF AREAS, BUT EFFECTIVE MEANS TO DEAL WITH VESSEL POLLUTION PROBLEM. WHAT ORGANIZATION SHOULD ELABORATE STANDARDS AND THE ENFORCEMENT ISSUE SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN THE WORKING GROUP. THESE ISSUES ADDRESSED IN U. S. AUG 2 STATEMENT. THERE IS IMPORTANT ROLE FOR PORT STATE IN ENFORCEMENT.

8. GREECE AGREED WITH U. S. PAPER AND U. S. DEL'S STATEMENT. SCALI

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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30 JUN 2005

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